ERG Operating Company, LLC
Cat Canyon Oilfield – Description of Proposed Aquifer Exemption

ERG proposes to exempt a portion of the Sisquoc formation in the Cat Canyon State-Designated Oilfield. The proposed exempt aquifer is located in an area historically developed for oil production. Aquifer exemptions in the Sisquoc formation have been granted in areas adjacent to the proposed exempted aquifer, per the California Department of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) "Application for Primacy in the Regulation of Class II Injection Wells under Section 1425 of the Safe Drinking Water Act" (dated April 1981). Please refer to the map submitted on December 13, 2012 for the boundaries of the proposed exempted aquifer.

The area of the proposed exempted aquifer is found with the following:

Portions of SW/4 of the SW/4, NE/4 of the SW/4, E/2 of the NW/4, NE/4, E 2/3 of the SE/4 of Section 24, T9N/R33W

SW/4, SE/4 and portions of the NW/4 and the W/2 of the NE/4 of Section 24 T9N/R33W

Portions of the NE/4 of the NW/4, NE/4 and NW/4 of the SE/4 of Section 36

Portions of the SW/4 of Section 30

NE/4 of the NW/4 and portions of NW/4 of the NW/4, SE/4 of the NW/4, NE/4, SE/4 and E/2 of the SW/4 of Section 31, T9n/R32W

Portions of the NW/4 of the SW/4, SE/4 of the SW/4 and SW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 32, T9N/R32W

The aquifer being exempted is the portion of the Sisquoc oil sands that is found below the overlying, confining Sisquoc mudstone layer. The Sisquoc mudstone layer divides the Foxen sands from the confined Sisquoc saturated oil sands. The average depth of the exempted aquifer is approximately 2000 ft below ground surface (below the base of the Sisquoc mudstone). The Underground Source of Drinking Water (USDW) for this area is located in the Careaga sands, which are overlying the Foxen formation.

The produced water effluent from the oil and gas operations would be injected into existing, permitted wastewater disposal wells located on ERG's Los Alamos Lease. These wells are located within the boundaries of the 1974 exempted aquifer in the Monterey formation, which lies under the base of the Sisquoc formation.